



# YOUR LANDSCAPE LEVY

The South Australian Arid Lands Landscape Board works with community, industry, First Nations and government agencies to ensure a sustainable approach to the management, protection and restoration of soil, water, native plants and animals.

The board works alongside community members and stakeholders to ensure there is a balance between the needs of regional communities and the sustainable management of the environment.

To fund this work, the board collects a Landscape Levy from all ratepayers. A change has been made this year to ensure there is a common and consistent levy basis applied across all council areas based on land use. The levy is also payable by property owners in the out-of-council (OOC) areas of the region.

Landscape levies, formerly NRM levies, are not new and are billed through your local council.



## What is the levy used for?

The Landscape Levy is used to fund programs and community activities in the SA Arid Lands region and to leverage additional funding from government and industry to increase community activities and outcomes.

Levies collected by the board are invested back into the region to manage its natural resources sustainably. The board invests according to the entire region's needs, defined by community input, environmental conditions and areas of high priority, in accordance with the *Landscape South Australia Act, 2019*. Community members can be involved in the board's business delivery through many events, training and education opportunities, forums, its seven landscape groups and by applying for grants and sponsorship.

## What is changing?

The board introduced a landscape levy equalisation process to ensure a common, consistent levy basis is applied across council areas in the region. This means that from 2023/24, a fixed charge will be applied depending on the purpose for which land is used.

## Why is it needed?

In 2019, the boundaries for the former SAAL NRM Board changed with the transition from the *Natural Resources Management Act 2004* to the *Landscape South Australia Act 2019*. Port Augusta City Council and The Flinders Ranges Council moved into the SA Arid Lands (SAAL) region, alongside Coober Pedy and Roxby Downs district councils.

Until July 1, 2023, the Roxby Downs and Coober Pedy councils were charged a different rate to Port Augusta and the Flinders Ranges. The levy equalisation process will see all council areas pay an equitable amount. It was a requirement of the *Landscape South Australia Act 2019* that the regional landscape levy is applied on a common basis across council areas in a landscape region by 1 July 2023.

## How much will I pay?

From 1 July 2023, the regional landscape levy will be a fixed charge based on the purpose for which land is used. The land use categories are primary production, commercial, industrial, residential, vacant land and other.

Primary production properties, which receive the greatest benefits from natural resources management (NRM) and the board's programs, will pay more than other land use types.

Land Use	23/24 levy
Residential, Vacant, Other	\$45.35
Commercial / Industrial	\$90.69
Primary Production	\$226.73

If you are a primary producer with more than one property within a council area, you may be eligible to have your farm classified as a single farm enterprise, which means the landscape levy would be charged only once.

If you have two or more parcels of land that are separated only by a road, railway or thoroughfare or an open space, you could be classed as contiguous property.

Contact your council to determine your eligibility.





## Projects delivered from your Landscape Levy

Regionwide, SAAL has seven landscape districts that are supported by six community landscape officers. These officers work with community members to support the district landscape groups. The groups determine priorities for each region and plan activities and projects as well as report to the board.

### Port Augusta City Council area:

- Support for the newly-formed Port Augusta Coastcare Group
- Funding support of Port Augusta Coastcare's *Secrets of Port Augusta's Gulf* event
- Bettongs and Buddies interactive children's theatre production
- Teacher development opportunities in Nature Education (Marine Studies and Nature Play)
- Grant workshop in Port Augusta
- Marine Discovery sessions at Port Augusta schools
- Sophie Thomson gardening workshops
- Opuntia cactus control along the Saltia creek
- Cochineal nursery at the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Gardens
- Growing native gardens (schools)

### The Flinders Ranges Council area:

- Ongoing support for the Quandong festival in Quorn
- Grassroots Grant funding for the Pithi Kawi Bush Tucker Garden in Quorn
- Growing Native Gardens Grant initiative in Quorn and Hawker
- Wattleseed forum at Cradock
- School holiday workshops at Pithi Kawi Bush Tucker Garden
- Bushfoods workshop with Neville Bonney
- Plant propagation workshops in Quorn and Hawker
- Carbon farming workshop in Hawker
- Purple spotted gudgeon translocation with National Parks and Wildlife Service SA and Yappala Rangers
- Bettongs and Buddies children's theatre production

### Coober Pedy District Council area:

- Cricket and Conversations pastoral bootcamp event
- Grassroots Grant for tree planting in the Town common
- Wicking bed workshop
- Chemical Accreditation training support
- Ongoing support of the Clontarf Academy
- Support given to the Kanku Breakaways Marathon

### Roxby Downs District Council Area:

- Bettongs and Buddies interactive children's theatre production show
- Support of the Arid Recovery Open Day
- Grassroots Grant funding for Arid Recovery's Soil Conservation Capacity Building for Drought Resilience and Feral Proof Fence Protection project



## How to contact the SA Arid Lands Landscape Board

The SAAL Landscape Board office is located at 1 Jervois Street, Port Augusta. The building, on the corner of Beauchamp Lane is open 9am to 5pm on weekdays, excluding public holidays.

You can call the office on 8429 9666 or email us at [SAALLandscapeBoard@sa.gov.au](mailto:SAALLandscapeBoard@sa.gov.au)

You can contact your community landscape officers directly.

- Port Augusta City Council: Brett Devitt 0409 753 495
- The Flinders Ranges Council: Brett Devitt 0409 753 495 (Quorn) or Matt Westover 0438 816 210 (Hawker)
- Coober Pedy District Council: Hamish Longbottom 0408 807 498
- Roxby Downs Municipal Council: Hamish Longbottom 0408 807 498

Find out more about your Landscape Levy, how it is calculated, levy equalisation and the work of the SA Arid Lands Landscape Board at [www.landscape.sa.gov.au/saal](http://www.landscape.sa.gov.au/saal) or follow us on Facebook at [SAALLandscapeSA](https://www.facebook.com/SAALLandscapeSA).



**Government of South Australia**

South Australian Arid Lands  
Landscape Board

**8429 9666**

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